

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 10495 251455Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /058 W
-----066548 251456Z /44

O R 251403Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4959
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 10495

WELLINGTON FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, IN, US
SUBJECT: "PATRIOT" ATTACK ON DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT

1. USIS HAS REPORTED SEPARATELY BY USINFO THE FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE AND INSIDE-PAGE EDITORIAL IN JULY 25 PRO-CPI "PATRIOT" WHICH ARE HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DELHI VISIT ON JULY 23. THIS ATTACK, WHICH WE EXPECTED, IS PRESUMABLY THE OPENING SALVO IN THE LEFTIST PRESS' EFFORT TO DEPICT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT AND THE ACCOMPANYING ATMOSPHERE OF IMPROVING INDO-US RELATIONS AS INDICATIVE OF A US DESIRE TO DOMINATE INDIA AND EVIDENCE OF JANATA GOVERNMENT CAPITULATION. AS IN PREVIOUS LEFTIST PRESS ATTACKS ON THE DESAI GOVERNMENT FOR ALLEGEDLY SELLING OUT TO THE U.S. ON NUCLEAR POLICY, THE "PATRIOT" ARTICLES TAKE THE GOI TO TASK AS WELL FOR KNUCKLING UNDER TO AMERICAN PRESSURE ON MILITARY BASES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND LEADERSHIP IN THE THIRD WORLD. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT WHAT THE "PATRIOT" SEES AS THE "MOST PERNICIOUS" ASPECT OF THE VISIT WAS THE DEPUTY

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SECRETARY'S STATEMENT THAT THE U.S. EXPECTS INDIA TO TAKE OVER THE LEADERSHIP OF SOUTH ASIA. IT HANDLES THIS ISSUE--A DIFFICULT ONE FOR ANTI-AMERICAN ELEMENTS HERE--CLAIMING THAT THE US WILL "PERMIT" INDIA TO ASSUME THIS LEADERSHIP ROLE ONLY UNDER "STRICT SUPERVISION" FROM WASHINGTON.

2. FOREIGN SECRETARY MEHTA MENTIONED "PATRIOT'S"

BROADSIDES IN COURSE OF A CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR LATER IN THE DAY. MEHTA SAID THE GOI WAS NOT WORRIED BY ATTACK, ASKED FOR US REACTION. AMBASSADOR INDICATED WE WERE ALSO RELAXED ABOUT CHARGES, WHICH WE SAID WE HAD EXPECTED FROM THAT QUARTER.

3. WE EXPECT THAT WEEKLY LEFTIST TABLOIDS, WHICH WILL HIT THE STREETS NEXT WEEKEND, WILL PICK UP AND ELABORATE ON THIS THEME.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: \"PATRIOT\" ATTACK ON DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT
TAGS: PDIP, IN, US, (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)
To: STATE WELLINGTON
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